

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 249542

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UNGA, KS, UV

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER

ZERBO ON KOREA

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY
TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. MINISTER:

THROUGHOUT THE PAST THREE YEARS MY GOVERNMENT HAS
RESPONDED GENEROUSLY TO YOUR CRITICAL NEED FOR DISASTER
RELIEF. THE U.S. CURRENTLY IS EXPANDING ITS ASSISTANCE
ACTIVITIES IN YOUR COUNTRY, AND WE HOPE TO SEE THESE
EFFORTS BECOME EVEN MORE HELPFUL IN YOUR ECONOMIC
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DEVELOPMENT IN FUTURE YEARS. WE HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO

CONTRIBUTE TO THIS HUMANITARIAN EFFORT SO IMPORTANT TO THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE OF UPPER VOLTA AND THE RECOVERY OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY. I THEREFORE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF UPPER VOLTA WILL SHOW ITSELF TO BE EQUALLY RESPONSIVE TO THE CONCERNS OF THE UNITED STATES ON AN ISSUE THAT HAS ENGAGED THE EFFORTS AND SACRIFICES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

THE KOREAN ITEM IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE ON THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA THIS YEAR AS FAR AS THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED. THE CENTRAL ISSUE OF THE DEBATE WILL BE ARRANGEMENTS TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE PENINSULA. I RECOGNIZE THAT MANY UN MEMBERS BELIEVE - AND THE UNITED STATES AGREES - THAT IT IS TIME TO TERMINATE THE UN COMMAND. HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY PROPOSAL TO TERMINATE THE COMMAND WHICH FAILS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUING VALIDITY OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, WHICH HAS BEEN OF SUCH IMPORTANCE IN KEEPING THE PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONTINUED STABILITY IN THE AREA AND THE INTEREST OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY IN THIS STABILITY MAKE IT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY TAKE RESPONSIBLE ACTION IN THIS DEBATE.

THE RESOLUTION WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS JOINED IN COSPONSORING IS DESIGNED TO BE RESPONSIVE TO PREVIOUS UN DECISIONS ON THE KOREAN ISSUE AND TO THE NEEDS FOR MAINTAINING PEACE ON THE PENINSULA. IT PROVIDES FOR TERMINATION OF THE UN COMMAND. IT DOES THIS WITHOUT UPSETTING THE PRINCIPAL MECHANISM FOR MAINTENANCE OF PEACE IN KOREA, THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT OF 1953, BECAUSE IT MAKES CLEAR THAT THE UN COMMAND, AS SIGNATORY TO THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, CAN BE REPLACED ONLY WHEN A SUBSTITUTE MECHANISM FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE IS AGREED BY ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED. THE RESOLUTION RESPONDS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S ENDORSEMENT IN THE CONSENSUS RESOLUTION OF 1973, REAFFIRMED LAST YEAR, OF TALKS BETWEEN SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA BY CALLING FOR A CONFERENCE BETWEEN ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED WITH THE ARMISTICE WHICH INCLUDES SOUTH AND

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NORTH KOREA, THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA. IT FORESEES A CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD FIRST PROVIDE NEW MECHANISMS FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE BUT WHICH COULD THEN GO ON TO CONSIDER MORE LASTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR REDUCING TENSIONS ON THE PENINSULA.

THE RESOLUTION PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF NORTH KOREA DOES NOT RESPOND TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS BECAUSE IT CALLS FOR A PEACE SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE "REAL PARTIES" WHICH NORTH KOREA IDENTIFIES AS THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH KOREA, EXCLUDING SOUTH KOREA WHICH IS AN ESSENTIAL PARTY TO ANY SUCH AGREEMENT. IT CALLS FOR REMOVING THE UN COMMAND WITHOUT ANY PROVISION FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE MECHANISM WHILE DISCUSSIONS OF A "PEACE AGREEMENT" PROCEED. THE RESOLUTION CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS "UNDER THE UN FLAG" WHICH NORTH KOREA MAKES CLEAR ARE U.S. TROOPS IN KOREA. THESE TROOPS ARE IN KOREA UNDER A U.S.-ROK BILATERAL AGREEMENT AT THE INVITATION OF THE ROK. NORTH KOREA, I NOTE, MAINTAINS TREATIES OF MUTUAL DEFENSE WITH BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE PRC.

THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO INSTABILITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, IS BLATANTLY ONE-SIDED IN IGNORING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND INTERFERES IN AN IMPORTANT U.S. SECURITY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ROK. BECAUSE OF THE VERY SERIOUS CONSIDERATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND OUR CLOSE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP I HOPE YOU WILL INSTRUCT YOUR DELEGATION IN NEW YORK TO VOTE AGAINST THIS RESOLUTION. I RECOGNIZE THAT UPPER VOLTA MAY WISH TO MAINTAIN A NEUTRAL STANCE ON THIS ISSUE AND IN THAT CASE I HOPE YOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD AT LEAST ABSTAIN ON THE RESOLUTION AND SUPPORT US ON THE PRIORITY QUESTION.

IF YOU WISH TO DISCUSS THESE TWO RESOLUTIONS FURTHER, AMBASSADOR GRAHAM WILL BE PLEASED TO MEET WITH YOU.

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WARM REGARDS,

HENRY A. KISSINGER.

3. END TEXT. INGERSOLL

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